

## REMARKS

In the Final rejection mailed March 8, 2006: claims 17-25 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Hsia in view of Tam et al.; claims 26-33 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Woods in view of Hsia; and claims 34 and 35 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Woods in view of Hsia and further in view of Mong-Hsing.

These rejections are respectfully traversed for reasons to follow.

### Claim 17

Claim 17 recites

A stroller comprising:  
a main structure having a handle including two back pipes;  
a body structure disposed between said two back pipes, said  
body structure having a back part and two side parts on right and  
left sides of said back part, respectively;  
a seat;  
a reclining mechanism capable of adjusting an inclination  
of said body structure relative to said seat; and  
flexible connecting flaps connecting said two side parts to  
said two back pipes, respectively, **said flexible connecting  
flaps...being independent of said two side parts.**

In the Final rejection, the Examiner recognizes that Hsia does not disclose connecting flaps that are independent of the side parts, and apparently relies upon Tam et al. to address this deficiency of Hsia. However, the Examiner has failed to explain, and it is not clear, how the relationship between inner web portions (200, 202) and outer web portions (220, 222) of Tam et al. renders obvious the claim limitation requiring the connecting flaps to be independent of the side parts. Accordingly, a prima facie case of obviousness has not been established, whereby claims 17-20 are allowable.

If the rejection of claim 17 is maintained, then the Examiner is respectfully requested to specifically explain how a combination of Hsia and Tam et al. would result in connecting flaps that are independent of side parts.

### **Claim 21**

Claim 21 recites

A stroller comprising:  
a main structure including a handle, front legs, and rear legs;  
a seat structure formed of a cushioning material and having a body part and a seat part, said body part including a middle part and two side parts on right and left sides of said middle part, respectively; and  
**elastic members *embedded* in said two side parts.**

In the Final rejection, The Examiner continues to assert that elastic members 216 and 218 of Tam et al. are embedded at least in some parts of seat structure 100. The Examiner has directed Applicants' attention to Figures 4A and 4B, and states that these figures clearly show the elastic members 216 and 218 to be embedded in side parts 200 of the seat structure. However, what Figures 4A and 4B actually show are these elastic members being stitched to the side parts.

In this regard, please note that Figures 4A and 4B are nowhere specifically described in Tam et al, and with regard to the manner by which elastic members 216 and 218 are incorporated as part of seat 100, column 4, lines 25-26 of Tam et al. states that "portions of...element 216 are...attached by stitching". Accordingly, because Tam et al. is completely silent with regard to "embedding" of any members, the only reasonable inference that can be drawn is that Figures 4A and 4B show elastic members that are stitched to the side parts. Thus, a prima facie case of obviousness has not been established, whereby claims 21-25 are allowable.

If the rejection of claim 21 is maintained, then the Examiner is respectfully requested to specifically explain how from the teachings of Tam et al. it is concluded that elastic members 216 and 218 are embedded in side parts of the seat 100.

### **Claim 26**

Claim 26 recites

A stroller comprising:  
a main structure including a handle, two rear legs, and two front legs;  
a support sheet supported on said main structure and including a supporting seat part and a supporting back part;  
a detachable seat structure supported on said support sheet, and having a seat part, side parts rising from right and left sides of said seat part, respectively, and a back part rising from a back side of said seat part; and  
**strings extended and fastened to a pair of ends within said side parts** to hold said side parts in a standing position.

In the Final rejection, the Examiner explains that in Hsia string 21 is within side part 24 because the string is within members 26, which members are part of the side part. The string 21 is confined and guided between members 26 and surfaces of 24 and 132. As such, to say that string 21 is “within” members 26 might be a slight mis-representation of what Hsia actually teaches. In any event, even if string 21 is extended within members 26, claim 26 requires more than this.

In this regard, claim 26 also recites that the strings are “fastened to a pair of ends within said side parts”. It is not seen, nor has the Examiner explained, how string 21 is fastened to ends within side part 24. Indeed, as expressed in column 3, lines 62-64 of Hsia, it is stated that connecting end 2A of elongated element 21 is stitched on side supporting unit 24, and accordingly, connecting end 2A is not fastened within supporting unit 24. Thus, a prima facie case of obviousness has not been established, whereby claims 26-33 are allowable.

If the rejection of claim 26 is maintained, then the Examiner is respectfully requested to specifically explain how each limitation of this claim is met by the relied-upon references.

**Claim 34**

Claim 34 recites

A stroller comprising:  
a main structure including a handle, two rear legs, and two front legs;  
a support sheet supported on said main structure and including a supporting seat part, a supporting back part, and side parts rising from opposite sides of said supporting seat part, respectively; and  
**strings extended and fastened to a pair of ends within said side parts** to hold said side parts in a standing position.

Thus, claim 34 is not obvious for the same reasons above presented with regard to claim 26, whereby claims 34 and 35 are allowable.

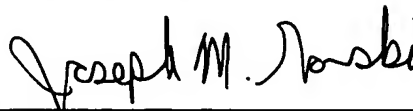
Additionally, claims 27, 29, 31, 33 and 35 are patentable in their own right because these claims require the strings to be **tensioned**. This limitation was not addressed in the Final rejection.

In view of the above remarks, it is respectfully submitted that the present application is in condition for allowance and an early Notice of Allowance is earnestly solicited.

If after reviewing this Request for Reconsideration, the Examiner believes that any issues remain which must be resolved before the application can be passed to issue, the Examiner is invited to contact the Applicants' undersigned representative by telephone to resolve such issues.

Respectfully submitted,

Seiji TAKUBO et al.

By: 

Joseph M. Gorski  
Registration No. 46,500  
Attorney for Applicants

JMG/nka  
Washington, D.C. 20006-1021  
Telephone (202) 721-8200  
Facsimile (202) 721-8250  
June 8, 2006